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(*d*) With the same object in view the usual grant of Rs 2 lakhs to the University for its building programme is also proposed to be limited only to Rs 1 lakh for the time being.

(*e*) To effect a further saving, the balances of certain funds, including the Life Insurance and other reserves for which Government have to pay interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. are proposed to be invested in Banks or Government Paper, so that the State may be relieved of the interest charges which they would otherwise have to bear.

(*f*) Although not mainly for the purpose of effecting a cut in expenditure, the postponement of general elections to the Legislature also contributes its own share in the economy campaign instituted by Government.

It will be seen that each item small in itself nevertheless contributes to a saving of about Rs 4½ lakhs in the total expenditure, a figure which is by no means negligible.

39. With these preliminary remarks I shall now pass on to the details of the expenditure budget.

40. The expenditure budgeted amounts to Rs 271·73 lakhs for the next year while the revised estimate for the current year is only Rs 263·62 lakhs. Honourable members would however recall that I have included a provision of Rs 10 lakhs in the expenditure estimates for war purposes and if the figure is eliminated the expenditure is really Rs 1·89 lakhs less than that of the current year.

It includes provision for expenditure under Palace on the normal scale although full amount is rarely spent. It provides for the revival of the full complement of the Judges in the High Court (Rs ·10 of a lakh). It includes extra provision calculated to afford full scope for primary and secondary education (Rs 1·15 lakhs). It allows sufficient margin for the increase in cost of prices of stationery (Rs ·20 of a lakh). It also provides funds to carry on all works in the Public Works Department without break so as to give facilities for relieving unemployment. Provision is made for taking census next year (Rs ·75 of a lakh). Notwithstanding the excess arising on account of these factors the net decrease in the expenditure budgeted for the next year should be attributed mainly to the measures of retrenchment referred to by me just now.

## NEW ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE.

41. It is now my duty to explain to the House what new features, what special provision for expenditure on new services I have included in the Budget. In doing so, I shall

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allocate the provision under four broad categories, however illogical the classification might appear,

(i) services employed in collection of revenue ;
(ii) services for maintenance of law and order ;
(iii) services for nation building activities and development of the economic resources ;
(iv) other items.

The provision made under each of these items is as follows :—

| | Expenditure on new items budgeted Rs. in lakhs. |
|---|---|
| Collection services ... | 2·15 |
| Defence and Maintenance of Law and Order | 2·17 |
| Nation Building and development services ... | 3·07 |
| Other services ... | 1·23 |

42. It will be unnecessary for me to detail all the provisions included either under collection services or under law and order. I shall merely state that the existing arragements consistent with considerations of economy only are continued, *e. g.*, registry of puduval lands, Jenmikaram settlements, opening of a District Court at Mavelikara, of certain Sub-registry offices in response to public demand and so forth. Otherwise no radical readjustment of policy has been made. But a word about the Forest may be said in this connection. In accordance with the proceedings of Government issued on the Royalties Committee's Report the whole area of the State has been roughly divided into three tracts for the purpose of the exploitation of royal trees on private lands. The work in respect of the first two tracts has been completed and Government have already relinquished their rights to royalties in those parts. The work remaining to be done besides settlement of Government rights in the third tract is the settlement of numerous kudivila claims on Royal trees removed from private lands backed by a number of joint *mahazars*. The budget provides an amount of Rs 5,900 for the work. As already observed by me in dealing with forest receipts the time has come for thoroughly investigating and

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studying the conditions of reserves with the object of preparing a revised working plan for the guidance of the department in timber exploitation and regenerative operations. Provision is accordingly made for the continuance of a working plans officer. Under the auspices of our University a forestry course has also been opened and Government have deputed five junior officers of the department to undergo the course.

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.

### (a) *Nation Building Services.*

43. But the budget in respect of the nation building and other development services cannot be disposed of summarily. The primary concern of any enlightened progressive and sympathetic administration is to make its sons and daughters a band of healthy and well-educated citizens. That Travancore holds a high place in the matter of education among other countries in India is a point which is now universally accepted. If the amount spent on education were to be the measure of the progress of the country, it will be conceded that the education budget is easily the biggest. It makes a demand of at least 20 per cent. of the revenue of the State. The year's education budget is Rs 51·94 lakhs against the revised estimate of Rs 51·32 lakhs thus representing an increase of Rs ·62 of a lakh which is about the measure of the annual progress we make in our primary and secondary education in the country. That our infant University is developing on right and national lines will be evident from the recognition its degree has received for the purpose of the Indian Civil Service Examination in the United Kingdom and the Government of India Examinations.

44. Equally prominent mention should be made of the activities of the Medical and Health Departments in promoting the health and happiness of the people. The medical budget provides for as much as Rs 16,000 for new items of expenditure which include more nursing facilities and tuberculosis and leprosy survey. Another sum of Rs 2,000 is also included for radium treatment.

Under Ayurveda provision is made for Panchakarma treatment.

The question of utilising the services of a large number of unemployed but highly qualified medical diploma holders has been a problem for Government. They have come to the conclusion that a corps of volunteers of young men and women should be enlisted for practical training before they are actually offered appointments in State or private hospitals.

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